

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEA-00

OMB-01 OIC-02 /122 W

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R 081549Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2280

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 7096

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, SF

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA IMPORT DEPOSIT SCHEMES (IDS)

REF: STATE 211631

1. PER INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL, MISSION HAS ENDEAVORED TO LINE UP SUPPORT FOR REFERRING SOUTH AFRICA'S IMPORT DEPOSIT SCHEME TO THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS COMMITTEE. CANADIANS HAVE TOLD US THEIR FIRST PREFERENCE IS FOR A BOP REVIEW, BUT THEY ARE NOT OPPOSED TO WORKING PARTY IN THE INTEREST OF EQUITY (I.E., NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER PRECEDENTS). THEY ARE, HOWEVER, CHECKING WITH OTTAWA FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. JAPAN HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS YET, WILL WANT EXAMINATION, BUT THEY EXPECT HAVE NO PREFERENCE AS BETWEEN WORKING PARTY OR BOP COMMITTEE.

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AUSTRALIA WILL ADVISE CANBERRA, BUT AS BEFORE THEY SERIOUSLY

DOUBT THAT THEY WILL HAVE PREFERENCE BETWEEN BOP OR WORKING PARTY APPROACH. SWISS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY PREPARED TO STATE IN COUNCIL THAT THE MEASURES SHOULD BE EXAMINED IN BOP COMMITTEE.

2. EC (DUGIMONT) HAS NOT HELD FINAL COORDINATION SESSION, BUT THEY NOTE "ONE MEMBER STATE" HAS A VESTED INTEREST IN AVOIDING BOP COMMITTEE REFERRAL FOR SA MEASURES. WHEN WE TALKED TO ITALY (BIASI) ABOUT EXAMINATION OF THEIR OWN MONETARY DEPOSIT SCHEME, BIASI INDICATED NEAR-VEHEMENT AVERSIÓN TO BOP COMMITTEE HANDLING (SEPTEL). THUS IT NOT REALISTIC EXPECT ITALY TO PERMIT EC SUPPORT OF BOP COMMITTEE REFERRAL FOR SOUTH AFRICAN MEASURES.

3. IN SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION (LOWRY), WE NOTED LONGSTANDING U.S. PERSISTENCE THAT THIS MATTER SHOULD BE REVIEWED BY BOP COMMITTEE. WE ADDED THAT IN PAST, MANY WORKING PARTIES HAVE TENDED TO CONSTITUTE AN ESCALATION, WHILE BOP COMMITTEE REVIEW WAS MORE ROUTINE AND THEREFORE LOWER PROFILE. PRETORIA HAS RECONSIDERED, BUT TODAY THEY SENT "FINAL" INSTRUCTIONS FOR SA TO REQUEST WP. CATTO

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